

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NEA-09 USPS-01 STR-04 AID-05

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 OFA-01 OES-03 DLOS-03 /109 R

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S/S :REWOODS

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EUR/CE:DANDERSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS:PFOR GE, GW, US, WB

SUBJECT: GDR AMBASSADOR SIEBER'S CALL ON HARTMAN

1. SUMMARY: GDR AMBASSADOR SIEBER AND DCM ELM MET WITH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
VINE, MAY 12 FOR TOUR D'HORIZON IN PREPARATION FOR
SIEBER'S RETURN THIS COMING WEEKEND TO EAST BERLIN FOR
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CONSULTATIONS. SIEBER WAS TOLD AT OUTSET, THAT
RECENT INTEMPERATE GDR STATEMENTS ON SOUTHEAST ASIA
(TEXTS POUCHED TO EMBASSY BONN) DO NOT BODE WELL FOR
BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. US SIDE ALSO PRESSED GDR REPS

FOR MOVEMENT ON CONSULAR CONVENTION, HUMANITARIAN CASES, AND PRIVATE CLAIMS. HARTMAN SAID WE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH GDR ON TRADE TALKS WHEN WE HAVE WORKED OUT SPECIFICS. SIEBER PUSHED FOR RAPID END TO CSCE AT SUMMIT LEVEL, COMPLAINING OF EFFORTS OF "SOME COUNTRIES" TO OBTAIN SPECIAL CONCESSIONS IN GENEVA. SIEBER ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SECRETARY WOULD TAKE INITIATIVE ON FORTHCOMING BERLIN TRIP TO ANNOUNCE BERLIN'S INCORPORATION INTO THE FRG. END SUMMARY.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE LED OFF MEETING WITH GDR REPS BY NOTING THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WELCOMED RECENT MEETING WITH

SIEBER AS REFLECTION OF DETENTE AND NEW RELATIONSHIP BUT HAS EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN AT RECENT HIGHLY INTEMPERATE GDR OFFICIAL AND MEDIA STATEMENTS ON SOUTHEAST ASIA. THESE RAISED QUESTION WHETHER GDR WAS SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN IMPROVING RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. US FOUND PARTICULARLY REPREHENSIBLE MAY 7 REFERENCE OF GDR ECOSOC REPRESENTATIVE TO ALLEGED U.S. "KIDNAPPING OF BABIES, MASS EXECUTION AND DESTRUCTION OF CROPS", REMARKS WHICH WENT CONSIDERABLY BEYOND STATEMENTS OF SOVIET AND OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. SIEBER TOOK NOTE OF COMMENTS BUT DID NOT RESPOND OTHER THAN TO ASK FOR COPY OF GDR ECOSOC STATEMENT. THIS PLUS OFFENSIVE MEDIA STATEMENTS WERE GIVEN TO GDR EMBOFF MAY 13.

3. REMAINDER OF SESSION WAS SPENT IN REVIEW OF VARIOUS BILATERAL MATTERS. PRINCIPAL HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

A.) CONSULAR CONVENTION - SIEBER STATED THAT GDR EMBASSY NOW HAS SECOND DRAFT OF CONSULAR CONVENTION WHICH IT PREPARED HAND OVER TO DEPARTMENT AT MUTUALLY AGREED TIME. HARTMAN RESPONDED THAT U.S. DRAFT ALSO NEARLY READY, AND THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD BE IN TOUCH ON EXCHANGE IN NEAR FUTURE. HE ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CONSULAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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CONVENTION TO BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, NOTED THAT U.S. POSITION ON NATIONALITY ISSUE HAD BEEN REACHED AT HIGH LEVEL AND REMAINED FIRM, AND EMPHASIZED NEED TO TREAT CONSULAR CONVENTION AS TECHNICAL DOCUMENT AND NOT AS PLACE TO MAKE POLITICAL POINTS.

B.) GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CLAIMS - HARTMAN NOTED THAT U.S. HAS STARTED PROCEDURES TO COLLECT CLAIMS INFORMATION WHICH WOULD CONCLUDE IN JULY. FOLLOWING REVIEW OF RESULTS, U.S. HOPE TO BEGIN PRELIMINARY EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH GDR IN FALL. SPECIFIC PROPOSALS IN THIS CONNECTION WOULD BE MADE AT LATER TIME.

C.) JEWISH CLAIMS - HARTMAN STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SIEBER MEETING WITH AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS TO HEAR THEM OUT AND SUGGESTED GDR EMBASSY INFORM EAST BERLIN THAT DR. GOLDMAN WAS EXPECTING SOME SIGNAL ON MEETING WITH HONECKER. ELM REPLIED THAT GDR EMBASSY HAD NO INDICATION THAT HONECKER HAD EVER TOLD ANYONE HE WOULD MEET WITH GOLDMAN. HE ADDED THAT EMBASSY MEETING WITH JEWISH LEADERS HAD BEEN CHECKED WITH EAST BERLIN WHICH HAD REPLIED THAT PROPER FORUM FOR DISCUSSION WAS MEETING BETWEEN CONFERENCE AND GDR COMMITTEE ON ANTI-FASCIST RESISTANCE FIGHTERS.

D.) TRADE TALKS - HARTMAN INDICATED THAT WE ARE LOOKING INTO POSSIBILITY OF TECHNICAL LEVEL TRADE TALKS AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH AS SOON AS WE HAVE SPECIFIC PROCEDURES TO SUGGEST.

E.) HUMANITARIAN CASES - VINE STRESSED U.S. SATISFACTION AT PROGRESS MADE THUS FAR ON HUMANITARIAN CASES, BUT NOTED IMPORTANCE OF RESOLVING REMAINING CASES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

F.) POSTAL AGREEMENT - SIEBER NOTED THAT OFFICE OF THE POST MASTER GENERAL HAD BEEN GIVEN GDR DRAFT POSTAL CONVENTION DURING PAST WEEK. HARTMAN EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT POSTAL CONVENTION NOW MOVING ALONG WITH NEGOTIATIONS.

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G.) FISHERIES AGREEMENT - VINE INDICATED THAT GDR SUGGESTIONS FOR FISHERY AGREEMENT TRANSMITTED TO DEPARTMENT IN FEBRUARY ARE CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY AND THAT WE INTEND TO PROVIDE U.S. REACTION SOON. DELAY IN THIS MATTER THUS FAR DUE SOLELY TO INVOLVEMENT OF MANY FISHERY EXPERTS WITH LAW OF SEAS CONFERENCE.

H.) COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELLING - HARTMAN INFORMED SIEBER THAT HE HAS ASKED TREASURY DEPARTMENT TO CHANGE THE CUSTOM'S REGULATIONS SO AS TO PERMIT THE USE BY THE GDR OF LABEL "MADE IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC". HOWEVER, SOME ADDITIONAL DELAY IS TO BE EXPECTED BEFORE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVES ARE PUT INTO EFFECT BY CUSTOMS.

I.) SECRETARY'S TRIP TO BERLIN - SIEBER ASKED WHETHER IT WAS TRUE THAT SECRETARY WOULD BE VISITING BERLIN SOON AND THAT HE WOULD ANNOUNCE INCORPORATION OF WEST BERLIN INTO FRG. HARTMAN CONFIRMED THAT SECRETARY WOULD BE VISITING BERLIN, BUT ASSURED SIEBER THAT THE

SECRETARY DID NOT INTEND TO TAKE ANY ACTION IN CONTRADICTION TO QA.

J.) HARTMAN VISIT TO EAST BERLIN - SIEBER
REITERATED PREVIOUS INVITATION OF MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY GRUNERT TO HARTMAN TO VISIT EAST BERLIN. HARTMAN REPLIED THAT SUCH VISIT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BUT MIGHT BE FEASIBLE LATER THIS YEAR.

K.) CSCE - ELM INDICATED THAT US AND GDR VIEWS ON CONCLUSION OF CSCE MEETING THIS SUMMER SEEMS IDENTICAL

BUT NOTED THAT "SOME COUNTRIES" REGRETTABLY STILL TRYING TO GET SPECIAL CONCESSIONS. HARTMAN NOTED THAT MAIN EASTERN OBJECTIVES ARE ALREADY ACHIEVED AND THAT IT NOW NECESSARY TO BALANCE CSCE DOCUMENTS BY EASTERN CONCESSIONS ON BASKET THREE. IN ORDER FOR SUMMIT TO BE SUCCESSFUL THERE MUST BE BALANCED GAIN FOR ALL SIDES.

L. DAVID ROCKEFELLER VISIT - SIEBER NOTED THAT DAVID ROCKEFELLER WOULD BE VISITING EAST BERLIN IN JUNE
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AND WISHED TO DISCUSS GENERAL RELATIONS AS WELL AS BANKING. HARTMAN NOTED THAT ROCKEFELLER OF COURSE WOULD BE REPRESENTING HIS BANK NOT US GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER HIS GREAT EXPERIENCE IN EXPLAINING HOW PRIVATE SECTOR FUNCTIONS IN U.S. AND HIS PREVIOUS DEALINGS WITH SOVIET UNION AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES WOULD MAKE HIM VALUABLE INTERLOCUTOR FOR GDR. SIEBER REPLIED THIS WAS UNDERSTOOD IN EAST BERLIN AND THAT ROCKEFELLER WOULD BE GIVEN ENTREE TO HIGH GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS HE WISHED TO SEE.

COMMENT: DEPARTMENT DOES NOT PLAN TO PROCEED TO IMPLEMENT LOW LEVEL TRADE TALKS WITH GDR UNTIL IT IS CLEAR THAT OUR VIEWS ABOUT THEIR INTEMPERATE STATEMENTS ON SOUTHEAST ASIA HAVE SUNK IN. AMBASSADOR COOPER SHOULD THEREFORE APPROACH GDR AT APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL TO REINFORCE DEPARTMENT'S DEMARCHE ON THIS SUBJECT, PARTICULARLY SINCE SIEBER PROFESSED IGNORANCE OF THE NATURE OF GDR REMARKS IN ECOSOC. DEPARTMENT WILL REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR TRADE TALKS IN THE LIGHT OF AMBASSADOR COOPER'S DISCUSSION. KISSINGER

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